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Big government can be cut

How big is the federal government? Here are some mind-boggling answers, courtesy of the president's Private Sector Survey on Cost Control, a group established in 1982 to find ways to increase efficiency and cut government costs.

The federal government spends more than \$91 million an hour, employs 2.8 million people, and owns one-third of the U.S. land mass, about 744 million acres, which is an amount equal to all the states east of

the Mississippi River, plus Texas.

Also, the federal government occupies 2.6 billion square feet of office space, an amount equal to all the office space in the nation's 10 largest cities, times four. And, it owns and operates 437,000 vehicles, not counting military vehicles.

So anyone who wants to cut the size of government has a big target — as big a target as you are likely to find. In fact, you could aim in almost any direction.